

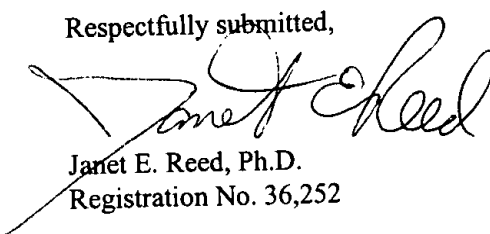
REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement issued May 29, 2002 in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants elect for prosecution the invention of Group I, claims 1-9, 12-14, 17 and 18. The remaining claims have been canceled as drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the claims of the non-elected invention in one or more continuing applications.

New claims 25 and 26 have been added. These claims are drawn to the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the gene comprises a sequence that is either 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:4 or is SEQ ID NO:4. It should be noted that claims 22 and 23, reciting SEQ ID NO: 4, are canceled herein as drawn to a non-elected invention. However, inasmuch as new claims 25 and 26 depend from elected claim 1, the new claims should be considered with the elected Group I invention.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,


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PATENT

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 10, 11, 15, 16, and 19-24 were canceled.

New claims 25 and 26 were added.

25. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, comprising a sequence at least 70% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:4.

26. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, comprising SEQ ID NO:4.